

Message Text

SECRET

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12

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 PM-07 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00

RSC-01 DODE-00 IGA-02 AID-20 DRC-01 /081 W

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P 070645Z MAR 74

FM AMCONSUL HONG KONG

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 9848

SECDEF WASHDC PRIORITY

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY SAIGON PRIORITY

CINCPAC HONOLULU HI

S E C R E T HONG KONG 2555

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MIL/CH US HK

SUBJ: TRANSSHIPMENT OF MILITARY CARGO FOR SOUTHEAST ASIA VIA

HONG KONG

REF: HONG KONG 4877 DTG 170622Z MAY 73

SUMMARY: CONGEN UNDERSTANDS THAT MILITARY CARGO TRANSSHIPMENT TO SEA MAY BE UNDERWAY, BUT TO DATE NO NOTIFICATION OF SMALL ARMS TRANSSHIPMENT HAS BEEN RECEIVED HERE. RELEVANT INFORMATION IS REQUESTED IN VIEW OF OUR PROMISE TO PROVIDE ADVANCE NOTIFICATION TO HKG IN FIRST FEW CASES (REFTEL). END SUMMARY.

1. IT HAS COME TO OUR ATTENTION THAT SEALAND HAS INITIATED THE TRANSSHIPMENT OF MILITARY CARGO DESTINED FOR VIETNAM AND THAILAND AS OUTLINED IN REFERENCED MESSAGE. SEALAND HAS NOW APPROACHED CONGEN ASKING WHETHER THEY SHOULD NOTIFY HKG IN ADVANCE OF ANY SMALL ARMS TRANSSHIPMENTS. ACCORDING TO SEALAND, THEY FOLLOWED ROUTINE PROCEDURES SOME TIME AGO IN NOTIFYING CUSTOMS POLICE WHEN SMALL ARMS ARRIVED, AND SHIPMENT WENT THROUGH WITHOUT A HITCH. SEALAND WELL AWARE, HOWEVER, THAT SUCH A PROCEDURE COULD BRING UNDESIREABLE PUBLICITY.

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2. POLAD, WHEN APPROACHED LAST MAY, REQUESTED PRIOR NOTIFICATION

OF HKG OF AT LEAST THE FIRST TWO OR THREE SMALL ARMS TRANS-SHIPMENTS. CONGEN IS UNAWARE THROUGH USG CHANNELS OF ANY SUCH SHIPMENT TO DATE.

3. REQUEST DEPARTMENT ADVISE WHETHER SMALL ARMS BEING SHIPPED AND FREQUENCY OF SUCH SHIPMENTS. WOULD APPRECIATE EARLY RECEIPT OF SUCH INFORMATION SO THAT CONGEN CAN MAKE LOW KEY APPROACH TO HKG IF INDICATED.

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Message Attributes

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